

State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
Yakima Washington

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION FOR CHANGE )  
FILED BY STIMSON LANE LTD. REQUESTING TO )  
CHANGE THE PLACE OF USE AND POINT OF ) Emergency Drought  
DIVERSION OF A PORTION OF THE WATER USE ) Change Authorization  
UNDER SURFACE WATER PERMIT 14583 )  
)

In accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.83B.405, on March 14, 2001, it was ordered and determined by the Director of the Department of Ecology that the State of Washington is under drought conditions. In accordance with the provisions of WAC 176-166-060, the Department of Ecology is under the terms of this Order, issuing an EMERGENCY DROUGHT CHANGE AUTHORIZATION. The intent of this authorization is to alleviate hardships and reduce the burdens on water users arising from the drought conditions.

**Background**

On May 11, 2001 Stimson Lane Ltd., filed a drought emergency change application requesting to change the point of diversion and place of use of a portion their existing non-interruptible water rights authorized under SWP 14583 to property irrigated under ground water permit G4-30288P which is subject to interruption under the Columbia River Instream Resources Protection Program, WAC 173-563.

**SURFACE WATER CERTIFICATE (SWP) 14583**

SWC 10704 authorizes the non-interruptible diversion of 66.8 cubic feet per second (cfs) and 13,200 acre-feet per year from the Columbia River for the irrigation of 3,300 acres. The diversion water duty under SWC 14583 is 0.02 cfs and 4 acre-feet per acre irrigated. Irrigation of four circles for a total of 480 acres of the authorized 3,300 acres will not occur on the authorized place of use this year. It is these 480 acres that are proposed be transferred approximately 7 or 8 miles down river along the Columbia River to another property.

The point of diversion authorized under SWP 14583 is located within Government Lot 1 of Section 18, T. 5 N., R. 26 E. W. M.

The place of use for the 3,300 acres authorized under SWP 14583 lies within Sections 2, 3, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 18, 20, 21, 28, and 29, T. 5 N., R. 26 E. W. M. The four circles are numbers 119, 120, 121, and 125 of the Stimson Lane farm plan. A map showing these circles was submitted with the application.

**PROPOSED PLACE OF USE AND POINTS OF WITHDRAWAL**

Groundwater permit G4-30288P was issued to Vernon Wyatt (subsequently assigned to Stimson Lane, Ltd.) authorizing the withdrawal of 2,250 gpm, 1,540 acre-feet per year from four wells adjacent to the Columbia River, for the irrigation of 700 acres. A water duty of 3.2 gpm per acre and 2.2 acre-feet per acre is authorized under this permit.

The place of use under this permit is located within portions of Sections 25, 26, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36, T. 5 N., R. 24 E. W. M. The points of withdrawal are located within Sections 33, 34, and 35, T. 5 N., R. 24 E. W. M.

The withdrawal authorized under permit G4-30288P is subject to interruption in accordance with the provisions of Columbia River Instream Resources Protection Program, WAC 173-563.

A non-interruptible water supply is being sought to irrigate 480 acres of wine grapes on the property.

**CONCLUSIONS AND DECISION**

This transfer will ensure that 480 acres of the property irrigated by Stimson Lane LTD under Ground Water Permit G4-30288P will not be interrupted during the 2001 irrigation season. Authorizing this change of place of use and point of diversion/withdrawal down river along the Columbia River will not impair existing water rights.

AND 5/25/01  
This **DROUGHT EMERGENCY CHANGE DECISION** authorizes the transfer of 480 acres of irrigation under SWP 14583 to property within portions of Sections 25, 26, 30, 31, 33, 34, 35 and 36, T. 5 N., R. 24 E. W. M. A complete legal description is available in the file for Ground Water Permit G4-30288P

The points of withdrawal shall be the existing wells authorized under permit G4-30288P located within Sections 33, 34, and 35, T. 5 N., R. 24 E. W. M.

A maximum of 1543 gpm and 1056 acre-feet are authorized for use on the property to irrigate 480 acres.

**The following provisions shall apply to this change authorization:**

A measuring device approved by the Department of Ecology must be installed prior to use of the water.

Bi-weekly (every 2 weeks) readings of the measuring device shall be recorded and shall include the date and time of measurement, water flow rate, volume of water, and the name of the person taking the meter readings. Within 30-days of the end of this irrigation season, the permittee shall send a copy of this data to the Central Regional Office.

A map of the new place of use showing the specific 480 acres that will be irrigated with this temporarily transferred non-interruptible water supply shall be submitted to Ecology's Central Regional Office within 15 days of the date of receipt of this drought emergency change authorization.

This drought emergency authorization expires on November 30, 2001.

REPORT BY: Phil Crane DATE: 5/17/2001  
Phil Crane

APPROVED BY: Robert F. Barwin DATE: 5/17/2001  
Robert F. Barwin, Section Manager

SWB:gg  
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Enclosure(s):